

Norman H. Bangerter, Governor Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

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May 29, 1987

Brown-Rose Mining Ms. Shirley Rose - Box 452 Green River, Utah 84525

Dear Ms. Rose:

Re: Permitting Requirements, Surface Mine and Heap Leach

Mr. Romer Brown has requested that we send you the necessary forms to permit a five-acre mine site near Green River. At this time, the permitting requirements are being changed for small mines which disturb five or less acres. This is a result of recent amendments to the Mined Land Reclamation Act which the Division is responsible for implementing. The amended Act established a new "small mining operation" category. Small mining operations are defined as "mining operations which disturb or will disturb five or less surface acres at any given time". Small mines will not have to post a reclamation bond, nor a detailed plan of operations, as is required of mine operations greater than five acres.

New forms and rules are currently being developed for the small mining category. These forms and rules will have to go through a lengthy public comment period, and they are not expected to be adopted until late this year. In the meanwhile, we are asking operators that plan to disturb between two and five acres to complete Form MR-1 (enclosed), as best as they are able, and return it to the Division. Upon receipt of this form, we will arrange a field visit with you and finalize a mutually agreeable mine and reclamation plan. We will not require a reclamation bond as long as the surface disturbance is less than five acres. (Note: Pages 81-94 of the Act and the guidelines for heap leaches, enclosed, can be used in preparing a mine and reclamation plan.)

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It will also be necessary for you to file notice with the appropriate Bureau of Land Management Resource Area if the claims are on public land. The heap leach facility will probably requireapproval by the State Health Department and the Division of Water Rights. Their phone numbers in Price are 637-3672 and 637-1303, respectively. Feel free to call me if you should have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Filas Reclamation Engineer

clj Enclosures 1117R/98